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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hiroyuki HOJO et al.

Group Art Unit: 3711

Appl. No. : 10/758,019

Examiner: K. T. Nguyen

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For

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement that was previously filed on April 30, 2004, Applicants hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner a European Office Action dated July 10, 2007 with respect to patent family member European Patent Application No. 04000897.1-2318, in which the following documents were cited:

- (1) International Publication No. WO 98/32501;
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 6,378,278;
- (3) European Patent Publication No. EP 0 963 767;
- (4) International Publication No. WO 97/29815;
- (5) U.S. Patent No. 5,787,692; and
- (6) German Patent Publication No. DE 2 259 376.

The relevance of these documents, as ascertained with respect to the European claims by the European Examiner, is set forth in the European Office Action.

Applicants note that all of the above-noted documents were previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statement that was filed on April 30, 2004. Thus, Applicants note that no fee or certification is required to ensure consideration of the material, as it was already brought to the Examiner's attention.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted, Hiroyuki HOJO et al.

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